



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE AGENCY
PLANNING SERVICES DIVISION
County of Placer

HEARING DATE: June 24, 2021
ITEM NO.: 2
TIME: 10:10 A.M.

TO: Placer County Advisory Redistricting Commission

FROM: Nikki Streegan, Senior Planner

DATE: June 4, 2021

SUBJECT: PLACER COUNTY 2021 REDISTRICTING WORKSHOP
ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS

ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of this report is to provide the Advisory Redistricting Commission with an overview and background information regarding the 2021 Redistricting process, which will affect how supervisorial district boundaries will need to be modified to respond to population changes as a result of the 2020 Census, and to receive public comment on preliminary redistricting information.

BACKGROUND

The United States Constitution requires a count every ten (10) years of everyone residing in the United States. Information from the Census is used to help determine where to locate schools, daycare centers, roads / public transportation, hospitals, and other facilities, and is used in making decisions regarding business growth and housing needs. Census data is also used for geographically defining state legislative districts, which initiates a “redistricting” process that begins in the year following a Census. Additionally, Census data allows county officials to realign supervisorial districts in their counties, considering shifts in population growth since the last Census and assuring equal representation for their constituents in compliance with the “one-person, one-vote” principle of the Voting Rights Act.

At its January 26, 2021 meeting, the Board of Supervisors reviewed a proposed 2021 redistricting timeline. At a subsequent February 9, 2021 meeting, the Board approved an updated timeline and authorized the Planning Commission to serve as the Advisory Redistricting Commission. The Board also directed staff to initiate work efforts to develop a plan for Placer County supervisorial districts in accordance with State and Federal law. At that time, staff outlined the new laws and requirements for the 2021 process and highlighted the challenges of the anticipated data delays from the U.S. Census Bureau, which inform the redistricting effort. These delays, coupled with the state deadlines for county redistricting maps, result in a significantly compressed timeline for community involvement/outreach over the ensuing year. On May 11, 2021, staff further updated the Board on the release of Census data, updated timelines, and provided notification of the launch of the Redistricting Placer website www.placer.ca.gov/redistricting.

CRITERIA AND PROCESS FOR REDISTRICTING SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS

The California Elections Code provides criteria and process requirements the Board is required to consider in redistricting supervisorial districts. Staff will use several criteria to prepare a range of district map alternatives. In addition to the necessary adjustments to account for the population changes, it is also necessary to prepare boundaries that are consistent with criteria found in state and federal laws as well as the significant amount of case law that has addressed this issue. Staff’s primary tool for this effort is to use GIS-based ESRI Redistricting software to manage data and mapping that meets objective criteria and governing principles.

Redistricting principles found in state/federal law and case law includes:

- Comply with U.S. Constitution Equal Protection Clause
- Comply with California Voting Rights Act
- Population equality as nearly as practicable

Additionally, consideration is given to the following factors in order of priority:

- Geographically contiguous districts (each supervisorial district should share a common border with the next);
- Geographic integrity of a local neighborhood or community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division;
- Geographic integrity of a city or census designated place shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division;
- Easily identifiable boundaries that follow natural or artificial barriers (rivers, streets, highways, rail lines, etc.); and
- Lines shall be drawn to encourage geographic compactness.

In addition, boundaries shall not be drawn for purposes of favoring or discriminating against a political party.

Pursuant to the direction given by the Board at its February 9th meeting, the Advisory Redistricting Commission will provide a recommendation to the Board, who will ultimately take final action on a map. In accordance with new State law (Assembly Bill 849 (2019)) cities and counties are required to engage communities in the redistricting process by holding public hearings and/or workshops and conducting public outreach, including to non English-speaking communities. The new law requires that a minimum of four public hearings are held: at least one before draft maps are published, at least two after draft maps are published, and one that is on a weekend or weekday evening after 6pm.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there are significant delays in the receipt of the Census data and the timeline to hold the required four meetings is significantly compressed. Currently, the deadline for redistricting maps is November 15, 2021, pending State legislative action (SB 594) that extend the deadline to December 15, 2021. The timeline below allows for the completion of the Placer County 2021 redistricting effort with opportunities for community input/participation, Advisory Redistricting Commission hearings, and Board review/approval, in compliance with state and federal requirements despite the U.S. Census Bureau data delays.

2021 Redistricting Timeline

January 26, 2021 February 9, 2021	Board Review / Approval of 2021 Redistricting Process
Feb – May 2021	Staff Analysis of Preliminary Census Data Staff Advocacy for SB 594 on State Map Deadlines 2021 Redistricting Process/Timeline Update to BOS
June 24, 2021	Advisory Redistricting Commission Workshop #1
July – Sept 2021	Community Outreach/Subregional Informational Meetings
Fall 2021	Advisory Redistricting Commission Workshops (dates TBD)
Nov – Dec 2021	BOS Consideration/Action on Revised Boundary Map

DISCUSSION

A multidisciplinary redistricting team comprised of staff from the County Executive Office, County Counsel, the County Clerk-Recorder Office, and the Community Development Resource Agency have convened to consider options for how to adjust the existing supervisorial district boundaries to address changes in population. In addition to the decennial census data, information will be collected from community members to inform drawing the maps. Despite the data delays noted previously, much work can be done to begin to understand some of the potential changes including looking at trending data from the 2019 American Communities Survey¹ and receiving preliminary input from community members via a survey on the redistricting [website](#).

Community input will be especially valuable in the coming months. As stated in Section 21500 of the Elections Code:

To the extent practicable, the geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division. A “community of interest” is a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single supervisorial district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

In order to identify and map communities of interest, a [survey](#) is currently available to help define these communities throughout the County. The survey will help to define the common links in a community, define the boundaries of that community, and define why it should be kept together or remain separate from another area. The public can provide feedback via an online survey, or through oral or written testimony. Staff will retain a public record of this data, analyze it as related to the legal criteria, and use the information to inform draft district boundaries for public review and Advisory Redistricting Commission recommendation at future hearings.

Consideration for local criteria

In addition to the aforementioned legal criteria, additional criteria can be used to help define social and/or economic interests. To the extent practicable, the following local criteria may also be considered and have been suggested in consultation with the multidisciplinary redistricting team. The following is provided for discussion among the Advisory Redistricting Commission:

- Respect continuity of Community Plan boundaries
- Consider entitled Specific Plan areas when evaluating potential map boundaries
- No city represented by more than two districts
- Each district represents a balance of rural and urban constituents

This criterion may support retaining existing communities of economic and social interest because of similarities related to land development patterns as well as the interests of the constituents that live within the communities. Table 1 below illustrates some of this criterion under the current configuration of Supervisorial districts.

¹ The American Community Survey is different from the 2020 Census. The American Community Survey is taken from a small sample size to make statistical projections. The American Community Survey provides information about the social and economic needs of your community every year, while the census is conducted every ten years to provide an official count of the entire U.S. population.

Table 1: Current Supervisorial Districts and Characteristics

District	# of Community Plans	# of Specific / Master Plans	# of Cities	Urban and Rural
District 1	1	5	1	Includes parts of the City of Roseville and portions of southwestern county identified as Specific Plan growth areas.
District 2	2	3	2	Includes the Cities of Lincoln and Rocklin and most of Rural Lincoln along the western and northern boundary of the county.
District 3	3	2	2	Includes the City of Rocklin and Town of Loomis, portions of North Auburn including Placer County Government Center, and rural communities along the I-80 corridor such as Newcastle, Penryn, and Ophir.
District 4	1	0	1	Includes parts of the City of Roseville and the community of Granite Bay.
District 5	10	4	2	Includes the Cities of Auburn and Colfax, the Western Sierra Nevada Foothills to the Eastern Sierra Nevada including the Tahoe Basin.

Demographic Profile and Population Projection

Adjusted Census data will not be available to the County until September 2021, but there is data available from statical projections that show population increases and shifts in demographic profile within Placer County. This information is provided through the 2019 American Community Survey data and is widely used by government agencies, researchers, and other private organizations and business decision-makers.

Based on these 2019 projections, Placer County's population has increased from 348,432 to 385,512, resulting in an overall increase of 37,080 people in the past decade. Figure 1 below displays the percentage breakdown by race/ethnicity and shows that Placer County is predominantly White alone (70%), followed by Hispanic/Latino (14%) and Asian (7%). Other races such as Black (2%), American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut (0.3%), Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (0.1%), or two or more races (4%) represent approximately 6% of the total population.

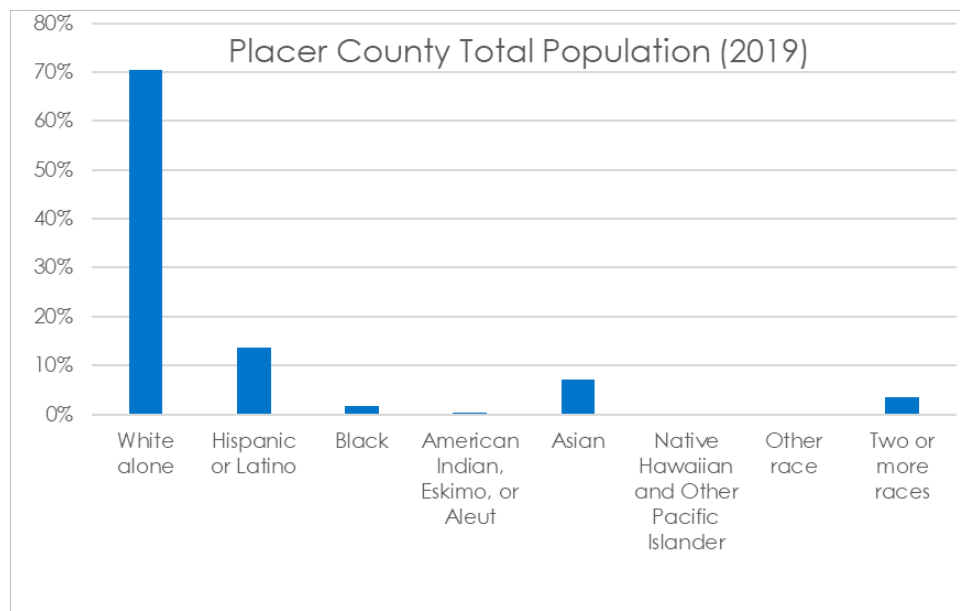


Figure 1: Placer County Total Population (2019)

The total percent change in population by race is represented by Figure 2 below and shows an increase in the Asian population by 30%, increase in Black population by 30%, increase in Hispanic or Latino population by 17%, increase in two or more races by 25%, and an increase in White alone population by 5%. Decreases in American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and populations identifying as Other races occurred. Overall, the data in Figure 2 shows that Placer County is becoming more diverse as the population grows.

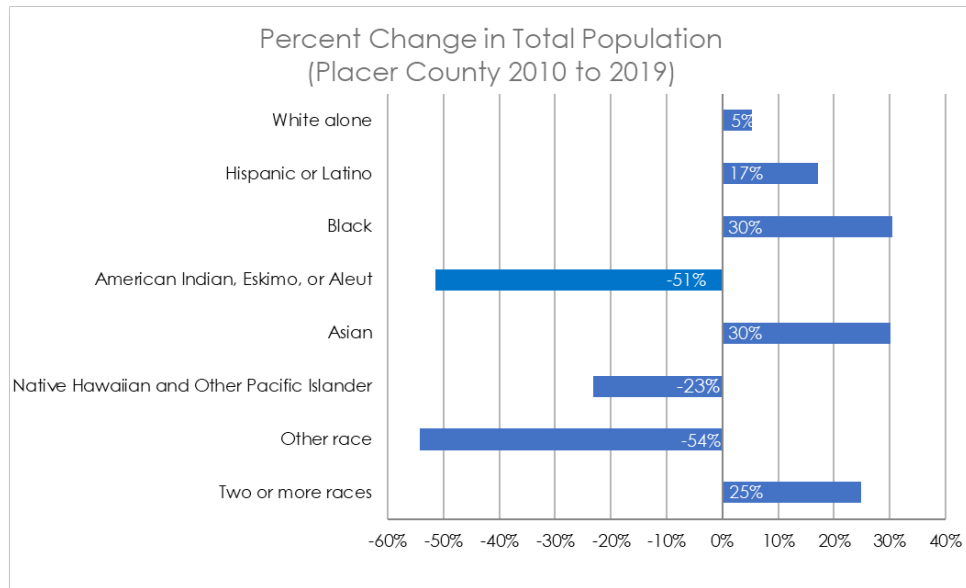


Figure 2: Placer County Percent Change in Total Population (2019)

Figure 3 below represents a comparative racial composition between Placer County and the State of California and shows that while Placer County is becoming a more diverse County, it does not reflect the diversity seen throughout the entire State of California. For example, throughout the State 39% of the population identify as Hispanic or Latino, 35% identify as White alone, 15% identify as Asian, 5% identify as Black, and 3% identify as two or more races.

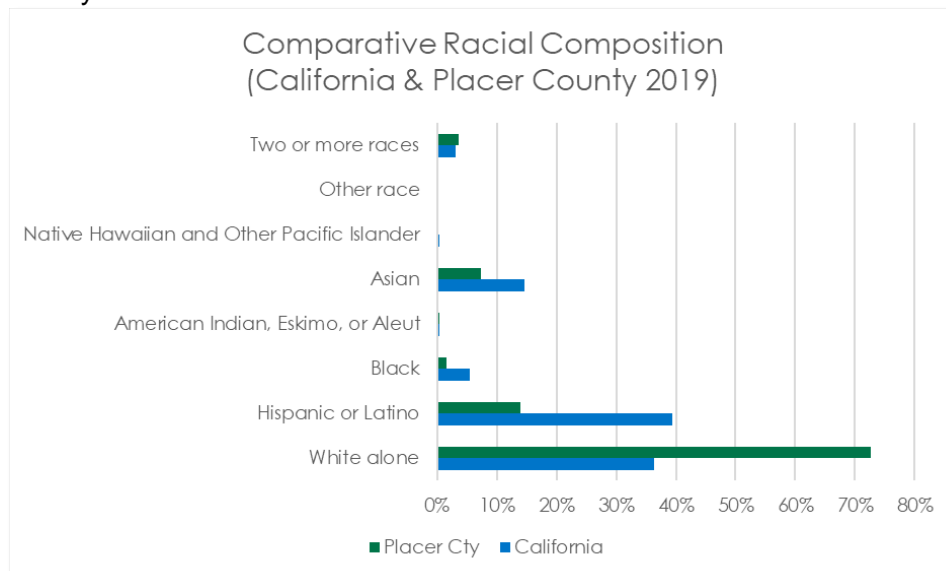


Figure 3: Comparative Racial Composition (2019)

Community Outreach Effort

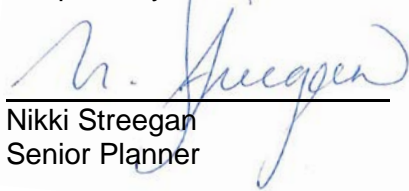
Community outreach is an important component to the process. For prior redistricting efforts in 2001 and 2011, the County's community outreach included information-sharing with area cities, special districts, school districts, Chambers of Commerce, and Municipal Advisory Committees (MACs). For 2021, staff plans to conduct targeted outreach to cities and special districts such as the Placer County Water Agency, hearings with the Advisory Redistricting Commission, and subregional community meetings (East Placer, Mid-Placer, South Placer). Community outreach efforts will predominantly occur over the summer months (in advance of Census final data receipt this fall) to inform interested parties on the process, milestones, and opportunities for input once map alternatives are available for review/comment. Information about the redistricting process and how to participate will be the focus of early meetings, with formal public input requested through the summer and during three Advisory Redistricting Commission meetings. Two additional Advisory Redistricting Commission meetings will occur in the Fall (these meetings will be scheduled as soon as possible and pending the status of SB 594).

NEXT STEPS

This workshop is the first opportunity for the Advisory Redistricting Commission to learn about the redistricting process and receive questions and input from the community regarding the process. The County is also formally launching a survey and invites community members to participate by identifying communities of interest that should remain intact as part of the redistricting process. As stated previously, these communities should have common social or economic interests and are mappable using the online tool provided by the County, physical copies provided at the hearing, and for download on the redistricting website. The public is invited at today's hearing and in the coming months to provide feedback via this online survey, as well as through oral or written testimony at upcoming workshops with the Commission. Surveys and comment can also be emailed to redistricting@placer.ca.gov or mailed to Redistricting Placer Survey, Community Development Resource Agency, 3091 County Center Drive, Auburn, CA 95603.

As shown in the timeline above, additional outreach meetings will be held throughout the summer, and staff will return to the Advisory Redistricting Commission in the fall with an overview of the survey data received throughout the summer and projected changes in district lines. Once data has been received from the U.S. Census Bureau and pending legislative deadlines, staff will also return with draft maps and a formal recommendation. At that future date, the Commission will be expected to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors who will take final action on approval of a map.

Respectfully submitted,



Nikki Streegan
Senior Planner

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Communities of Interest Survey

cc:

Jane Christianson, Assistant CEO

Dave Defanti, Deputy CEO

Steve Pedretti, Agency Director, Community Development Resource Agency

E.J. Ivaldi, Planning Director

Clayton Cook, County Counsel

Ryan Ronco, Clerk-Record, Elections



Define Your Community Survey

All personal information listed on this survey is voluntary and will become a part of Placer County's public record. Answer the questions to the best of your ability. You can also indicate the boundaries of your community by roughly drawing the area on the back of this sheet, or by using one of our printed map templates.

To submit this form digitally, please visit placer.ca.gov/redistrictingsurvey or scan this QR code using your smart phone's camera app.



Scan with your smart phone to complete the survey online.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Email or Phone Number: _____

Zip Code: _____

What bonds your community – what do you see as the common links in your community?

Where is your community located – what are the boundaries of your community?

Why should the community be kept together – or separate from another area?